## REMARKS

Claim 4 has been cancelled. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations recited by now cancelled claim 4. Claims 1, 2, 4-20 are currently pending in the present application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

## REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1 & 2 UNDER 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 for the reasons set forth on pages 2-4 of the Action. Specifically, claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Toh (US Pat. No. 5,987,011, hereinafter referred to as "Toh" or "the Toh reference") in view of Forslow (US Pat. No. 6,954,790, hereinafter referred to as "Forslow" or "the Forslow reference").

The Action cites FIG. 5a and col. 8, lines 23-35 of Toh as disclosing the claimed invention except for the limitation, "when the current node is not the destination of the message, selectively forwarding the message to another node by employing the geographic position data of the current node." as claimed. The Action then cites col. 12, lines 5-32 of Forslow as teaching the above-noted limitation.

The rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103 are respectfully traversed, at least insofar as applied to the amended claims, and reconsideration and reexamination of the application are respectfully requested for the reasons set forth hereinbelow.

It is respectfully submitted that Toh, whether alone or in combination with Forslow, does not fairly disclose or teach inter alia, "wherein the step of determining whether the received message has been encountered recently includes storing a destination field, a source field, and a message identifier field of the received message for use in future processing of step (b)." as claimed in amended claim 1.

As advanced previously, the portion of Toh that is cited by the Action is directed to describing one of the phases of the Associativity-Based Routing (ABR) protocol (see, col. 7, lines 51-54 and lines 65-66). Specifically, FIG. 5a is directed to the Route Discovery Phase that includes a broadcast query (BQ) and await reply (REPLY) cycle (see, col. 5, lines 19-21; and col. 8, lines 11-13). In this regard, the cited portion of Toh does not fairly teach or suggest a method for routing messages in an ad hoc network as claimed, but instead describes a preliminary step of route discovery. For example, it does not appear that any data is transmitted until the reply packet is received and the BQ-REPLY cycle is completed (see col. 11, lines 27-31). Consequently, the BQ packet and the processing thereof by Toh is not the same and does not fairly teach or suggest the claimed method.

Furthermore, col. 12, lines 5-32 of Forslow does not fairly teach or suggest the limitation, "when the current node is not the destination of the message, selectively forwarding the message to another node by employing the geographic position data of the current node." as claimed. FIG. 6 of Forslow is directed to showing the separation of link layer access 19 and mobile VPN 18 in a particular architecture based on cdma2000 (see col. 11, lines 58-60. Also, as shown in FIG. 6, the mobile service router 10 "integrates a DIAMETER server 60 and a home agent 30 for the purpose of authenticating the mobile VPN 18 access." (see col. 11, line 65 to col. 12, line 1).

It is noted that any of the mobile service routers 10 may act as the DIAMETER server 60 (see col. 12, line 1-3). Lines 5 through 21 of column 12 of Forslow describe different ways in which the selection of a particular mobile service router 10 to be the DIAMETER server may be accomplished. A third alternative, as set forth in lines 22-29, describes a situation, where the mobile client 20 uses a spatial location protocol to determine the geographic position of itself and the available mobile service routers 10 in order to perform

"selection of 'home' mobile service router acting as DIAMTER server 60." (col. 12, lines 21-25). In this regard, the mobile client 10 selects "the mobile service router 10, which is the closest geographic vicinity as its DIAMETER server 60." (col 12, lines 27-29).

It is respectfully submitted that using geographical information to designate one of the mobile service routers as the DIAMETER server does not fairly teach or suggest, "selectively forwarding the message to another node by employing the geographic position data of the current node." as claimed. In other words, Forslow does not use geographic position data to affect a decision to forward a message from a current node to another node as claimed.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the Toh reference, whether alone or in combination with Forslow, fails to teach or suggest the method as claimed. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) be withdrawn.

## ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant graciously acknowledges the allowable subject matter as noted in paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Action on page 4. The limitations of allowed claim 4 has been incorporated into amended claim 1.

## CONCLUSION

For the reasons advanced above, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are requested, and allowance is earnestly solicited at an early date. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner has any suggestions, thoughts or comments, which might expedite the prosecution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (fax no.: 571-273-8300) on the date below.

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June 3, 2006
(Date)